



Department of Energy

ROCKY FLATS FIELD OFFICE
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JUL 30 1999

99-DOE-03664

Mr Steve Gunderson
RFCA Project Coordinator
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South, OE-B2
Denver, Colorado 80246-1530

Mr Tim Rehder
Rocky Flats Project Manager
U S Environmental Protection Agency, Region VIII
999 18th Street, Suite 500
Denver, Colorado 80202-2466

Dear Mr Gunderson and Mr Rehder

The enclosed *Source Evaluation Report for Point of Evaluation GS10* (July 1999) has been provided in accordance with the Final Rocky Flats Cleanup Agreement (RFCA) Attachment 5. Specifically, the Report contains the completed initial investigation into the cause(s) of reportable 30-day moving averages for plutonium and americium water-quality standards at the Walnut Creek RFCA Point of Evaluation (POE) monitoring location, GS10. As first reported on June 21, 1999, the reportable values may be summarized as follows:

- Reportable 30-day moving average values for plutonium were measured at the POE monitoring location above Pond B-1 (referred to as GS10) for the periods April 7 through April 22, 1999, April 26 through April 28, 1999, and May 22, 1999, to the present.
- Reportable 30-day moving average values for americium were also measured at the POE monitoring location GS10 for the period March 30, 1999, to the present.

As discussed in the Report, the data received to date have identified no specific source(s) of contamination. The data indicate that the sources of the reportable values are plutonium and americium that have been released into the environment over the past years of nuclear operations at the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site (Site). Since the sources of plutonium and americium are believed to be diffuse and widespread, and the reportable value of 0.15 pCi/L is so low, the Site has no immediate plans for source remediation, pending further investigation.

All water monitored at GS10 flows to Pond B-5 for eventual direct discharge to lower Walnut Creek. Pre-discharge samples of the water in Pond B-5 indicate acceptable water quality for all discharges. All water discharged from Pond B-5 to Walnut Creek subsequently flowed through RFCA Point of Compliance (POC) monitoring station GS03 prior to off-site release. Analytical results from composite samples collected at GS03 during the period of interest were also below the RFCA standard.

ADMIN CORP.
SW-SW-A-003339

Mr Gunderson
Mr Rehder
99-DOE-03664

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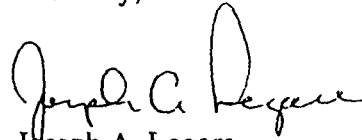
JUL 30 1999

We reviewed your letter of July 12, 1999, related to the Source Evaluation Plan for the March/April, 1999 GS10 reportable values. The Department of Energy Rocky Flats Field Office believes that the Source Evaluation Plan and the enclosed Final Report are sufficient for reportable values at RFCA POE monitoring locations. Based upon discussions with you on July 26, 1999, the requested actions in your letter of July 12, 1999, will not be performed, but more focused sampling in the area of Building 991 and other possible source areas in the GS10 basin will be performed per the data quality objective (DQO) process. Additionally, more collaboration between the Actinide Migration Evaluation (AME) group, your staff, and stakeholders will take place during the DQO discussion to ensure understanding of actions taken for these AME studies. Complete information on sources and source migration is essential before any expenditure of resources for treatment or controls can take place.

Also, as part of our ongoing efforts, the Site will continue the extensive program of routine monitoring and special analysis and continue participation in forums to discuss water issues.

If you have any questions regarding this transmittal, please contact me at (303) 966-5918.

Sincerely,



Joseph A. Legare
Assistant Manager
for Environment and Infrastructure

Attachment

cc w/o Att

J Rampe, DAMEI, RFFO
G Hill, ERWM, RFFO
J Stover, ERWM, RFFO
R McCallister, ERWM, RFFO
M McCann, OCC, RFFO
D Shelton, K-H
L Brooks, K-H
J Hill, K-H
R Ninninger, K-H
F Phillips, K-H
K Motyl, RMRS
R McPherson, RMRS

cc w/Att

Administrative Record *w/b*
C Lyons, City of Arvada
R Hellbusch, City of Westminster
H Mahan, City of Broomfield